

Jugo-Slav Relief's Story of Feeding Starving Children

Agents Return With First Complete Account of Skeleton War Waifs Saved by Food From United States

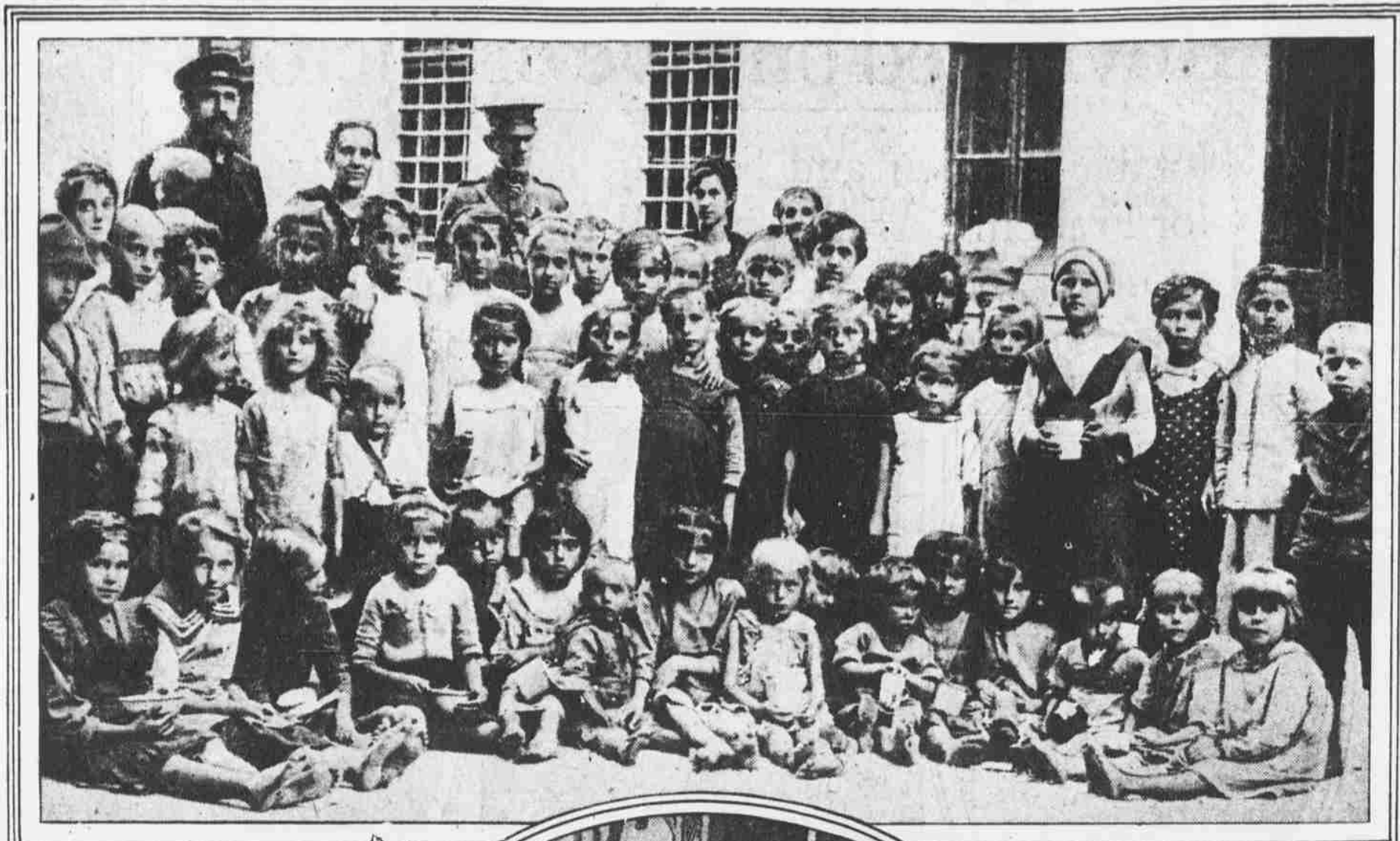
THE American Jugo-Slav Relief, after working for the better part of a year to send special rations to the debilitated and undernourished children, Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, was not satisfied with the reports written or cabled back by distributors because from the nature of things, lack of time and other, these reports were not full enough. Therefore the committee broached to Herbert Hoover its wish that their own representatives should visit Jugo-Slavia and get more comprehensive information. Miss Malvina Hoffman, a sculptress, and Miss Emmet accordingly, went over last August. They have returned with a complete story of the work the relief committee has done and is doing. It is a report backed up by hundreds of photographs, personal and official letters and all kinds of intimate details. It was a gratifying report, none could be more so.

What is the American Jugo-Slav relief? The question is not so absurd as it seems at first glance, for it has done its work privately and quietly and having inaugurated no public drives for money to support it there may be a good many persons who are ignorant of its existence. Nevertheless, since Mr. Hoover, under date of February, 1918, cabled to the American Relief Administration of the alarming state of malnutrition among the children of Serbia, Jugo-Slavia, Czechoslovakia and the Baltic States this committee got under way.

What the Organization Has Done.

Its officers are Mrs. E. H. Harriman, president; Mrs. Ripley Hitchcock, vice-president; Walter Jennings, treasurer; Charles L. Hoffman, secretary; Miss Lucile Cochran, assistant secretary; William Williams, chairman of the executive committee, and George Gordon Battle, counsel. All the expenses of this relief are met by a private fund and every cent contributed goes to buy food and clothing for the weak and needy children in Jugo-Slavia.

And what has this relief done? Without advertisement, without publicity, it has collected and turned into food the sum of \$353,293.63, and it has obligated itself to collect half again as much more to pay for food and clothing already sent to care for poor children during the winter now passing. All donations have been privately sought and a generous proportion of them has come from Jugo-Slavs in this country who are comfortably off. Is it plain that the relief is in debt? This is because it could not wait until more money was subscribed before sending over what was needed to keep



CHILD FEEDING IN BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA

the children alive. There are 200,000 of these children who are in rags and without milk.

When the two appointed agents of the relief started to go to Jugo-Slavia they looked it up on the map. After looking they had to make a map of their own. Jugo-Slavia is the union of the Slavic race, including 12,000,000 of people in Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia, Herzegovina, Croatia, Slavonia, Carriola, Bocka, Banat and provinces along the eastern shore of the Adriatic, of Istria, Styria, Dalmatia and the Dalmatian islands. Landing in Trieste, they made the trip to Ljubljana by motor, thence on to Ljvitch, thirty miles south, and there entered Jugo-Slavia.

Congestion Hampers Relief.

Ljubljana has swollen since the war from a city of 40,000 to 80,000, which makes the relief work the harder. It is overcrowded and overrun by war waifs, whom it is difficult to locate and to help. The same condition was found in Zagreb, a city now of 175,000 inhabitants. Here is an old colony and the center of the embroidery workers. On the way from Zagreb to Vivodena the two Americans had the opportunity to study communal life, which is one of the results of the war. It is to be remembered that all able bodied Serbs are still in the army; pro-

tecting the frontiers; not one has been demobilized and farm labor has devolved on the women.

The communal houses are built around a court, one of them serving for a general kitchen, another for sleeping purposes, etc. At some as many as thirty persons sleep in one house or room on the high beds peculiar to the country, heaped high with six or seven mattresses. The children sleep in cradles, which are pushed under these beds. The women take turns at housekeeping and prefer the days when they are outdoors farming. They are a vigorous lot, but not to be



TUBERCULAR WAR ORPHANS at BELGRADE

Slav Child Relief has appointed districts for feeding the children rice and cereals cooked in milk, cocoa, etc., and one good meal a day of this kind of nourishing food is served to the little ones, who come from widely separated districts. In the cities orphanages have been established and in smaller towns and country places feeding stations. When conditions are so bad as to require more than one feeding a day the little waifs are given a certificate entitling them to this extra luxury. In this work the American Red Cross has lent valuable assistance.

The large stations of the cities are placed in charge of the school teachers, the police and the Sisters of Charity, who vie with one another to carry it on carefully. A great tub full of the rice and milk mixture is cooked up and each child brings his own cup to get his share. The sisters told Miss Hoffman that the hardest part of the work was opening the cans of condensed milk. It is necessary to cut away the entire top cover, as the milk has often thickened so that it would not pour.

Human Flotsam of the War.

Many of the children are veritable waifs and not so in a mere literary sense. They are the flotsam of the war and do not know who their parents were nor where they came from. In the intervals between feedings they play in the dust outside of the feeding stations "like insects," as one horrified traveler described them. But every investigation is being made of their parentage and whenever possible they are being returned to their parents—alas! too many of them have only one surviving—or are placed where they may safely grow up. The tots know they are indebted to America for the good and satisfying food, and before and after each meal they join in the cry: *Javila America!*

Under the Regent Prince Alexander, son of old King Peter, who is "in retirement," are four governors, with the central government at Belgrade. There is one at Ljubljana for Slavonia, one at Zagreb for the Croats, one at Sarajevo for Bosnia and Herzegovina and still another governor at Spalato for Dalmatia. The union of these various parts

Society's Work Carried on by Private Subscriptions to Which Jugo-Slavs Here Contribute Large Share

into Jugo-Slavia has doubled Serbia's population and added well nigh innumerable political problems.

Belgrade our travelers found to be in a state of decay and poverty. Every bridge leading into the capital remains as the enemy left it, blown up and destroyed. The streets are broken up and in places impassable, the stores are almost bare of merchandise after being sacked by German and Austrian soldiers, homes abandoned and others in ruins are found in every quarter, while the gaunt faces of the little children are seen everywhere. Here in the capital, however, the work of the relief is most plainly manifested by its results.

Dr. Abraham Ilie is the director of child welfare for central Serbia. In Ljubljana there are 25,000 homeless little ones, according to his statistics, almost twice as many in Zagreb, while Belgrade is alive with ragged little waifs with stomachs distended from starvation, and skeleton arms and legs. Many of these have the additional affliction of sore eyes, while thousands are tubercular. Dr. Ilie escorted the investigating travelers through the tunnel to Ferizana and saw them off by motor to Kossovo through miles of rich grain fields brightened with nodding poppies and over fine smooth roads. At Kossovo they saw the fourteenth century monastery of Grachiniza, where the monks and entire community were put to death by the enemy with the exception of one solitary monk left to guard this monument of Serbian valor and deep patriotism. In the kitchen of this monastery they witnessed sixty-eight children get their daily rations of rice and milk, blessed food sent to them from far away America.

In the Heart of Serbia.

"This sight," said Miss Hoffman, "in the heart of Serbia or Jugo-Slavia, the shrine to which every true Slavonic eye turns when this fine, vigorous people think of their great history, was one of a moving kind and it was equalled only when we ran across the Slavs who had come over from their quiet, peaceful homes in America to fight for the freedom of their first homeland. We remembered seeing these volunteers from Ohio, Pittsburgh and New England cities when they passed through New York en route to the battlefield. And to see them again, or what was left of them, hardy, rugged soldiers in their worn earth colored uniforms, was a great experience. They knew we were Americans, and they gave three hearty Yankee cheers as we rode past them. Poor fellows! The Austrians kept their eyes on them, they were marked men on whom the enemy vented a bitter hatred. As it was known where their homes were the Austrians could take a peculiar vengeance, and when these American Slavs went back to look for their old fathers and mothers they not only did not find them, but they found in every instance an uprooted roof tree."

At Sarajevo the travelers dined with the Governor of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Dr. Shola, and had pointed out to them the spot where the murder was committed that started the world war. They saw also the beetling cliff on the shore of what has figured in many Western publications as an adequate "port" for the city. Thence they went to Iliza, a sulphur spring resort; to Mosta, crossing the beautiful Turkish bridge which leads into the quaint city and to picturesque postcard Ragusa, with its steep, narrow stairways for streets. Wherever they went they found that agents for the relief of the starving children had preceded them and every heart beat in gratitude to America.

The conclusions brought home to the people who are conducting this relief cannot fail to prove eminently satisfactory. The race is one that it would be the highest wisdom to save. Given the help they need in the way of live stock and farming implements, they will become in a short space of time self-supporting and self-reliant.

World's Fuel, Oil Supply Ample for Future

By ALLEN F. BREWER,
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THE growth of the petroleum industry during the past decade, coupled with the rapid development of oil fuel burning on shipboard, in industrial plants and the railroads throughout the world is an intimate fact to every power plant or combustion engineer to-day. New oil field developments are constantly being carried forward to meet the growing demands and vast, programmes have been conceived by the great oil companies, both at home and abroad, to further the cause of oil fuel as a substitute for coal.

The field for consumption is unlimited, the world's source of supply, according to expert geological opinion, is practically beyond calculation, therefore the rate of pumping petroleum from the interior reservoirs of the earth may be said to depend on the demand alone. In other words, the law of supply and demand holds true in a sense.

Fuel Oil Defined.

As a point of interest it is fitting to state briefly the identity of fuel oil as a petroleum product. Fuel oil is a heavy, dark colored liquid, the residue after certain naphtha, gasoline and kerosene fractions have been removed from the crude product by the process of distillation. Fuel oil is usually somewhat more viscous than the crude oil from which it is produced; it will generally have a slightly higher calorific value, and on account of its higher flash point can be more safely handled.

The process of removing the more vola-

Experts Foresee No Famine Despite Vast and Growing Demand—United States Must Depend Largely on Imports

the constituents from crude petroleum is termed "topping" or "reducing" in the oil industry, and the resultant product is called a "topped oil" or a "reduced crude." It should not be assumed, however, by the layman that all fuel oils are so treated, because the crude itself is very frequently burned without any refinement whatever, just as it flows from the earth, as is the case with many of the Mexican and California oils.

In addition, many fuel oils are blended or built up of two particular types of crudes, or the refined products therefrom, in order to meet certain specific requirements, as, for example, those of the United States Navy and other navies of the world. It is interesting to note the growth of the petroleum production in the United States given below, for the past ten years, to visualize the rate of fuel oil consumption—and this output has by no means equalled the demand. In fact, to-day the United States is consuming so much more crude oil than it is producing that as result we must depend on imports to make up our deficit.

U. S. Production.

Year.	Barrels.
1909.....	187,134,274
1910.....	216,588,398
1911.....	274,440,591
1912.....	322,935,044
1913.....	348,444,530
1914.....	365,767,535
1915.....	310,376,923
1916.....	306,297,760
1917.....	320,219,118
1918.....	345,896,000

Straightway the question will be raised,

Mexico's Output.

When we note that the 1918 production was 63,500,000 barrels (in round numbers) it is very evident that the fuel oil supply for our normal uses need not worry the present generation. The production of the Mexican oil fields from 1911 to 1919 is tabulated below. Of the 1918 production it is estimated that approximately 84 per cent was exported to the United States.

Year.	Mexican Production, Barrels.
1911.....	14,800,000
1912.....	16,500,000
1913.....	25,500,000
1914.....	20,900,000
1915.....	35,900,000
1916.....	39,800,000
1917.....	53,500,000
1918.....	63,500,000

The abnormal rise in labor costs during recent years, both for the production and the firing of coal, has been a primary factor to influence many combustion engineers in advocating the conversion of their plants to oil burning. With the rise in cost of labor for coal production, and the ultimate scarcity of coal due to labor and transportation problems, came as well the rise in wages for firemen and coal passers to add to the general troubles of the power plant engineers. It was no wonder, then, that they sought a remedy, and found fuel oil as the natural relief.

With comparatively little attendant labor required for its production and the rise in wages of such labor being normal, with an ease of transportation far exceeding that of coal, and with a reduction of 70 per cent, approximately in the fireroom force, it is easy to see how popular and economical fuel oil immediately became.

The point arises here, will it pay to burn fuel oil in the future as a permanent substitute for coal? To best answer this, the following statistical figures are cited as most enlightening:

Heating value of fuel oil ranges from

18,000 to 19,000 B. T. U. a pound as compared to the heating value of coal, which varies between 11,500 and 14,500 B. T. U. a pound.

As a result of the above there may be an increase of from 30 to 65 per cent, weight for weight, in the heating value of oil as compared with coal.

Fifty cubic feet of oil may be equivalent in heating value to eighty cubic feet of coal. Approximately 80 per cent of the heating value of fuel oil is used in raising steam. On the other hand, only about 55 per cent of the heating value of coal is used in raising steam.

A vessel burning fuel oil may steam about 50 per cent, further than the vessel burning the same weight of coal. If the same bunker space as formerly used for storing coal were used for storing oil the vessel would steam as much as 80 per cent, further.

Boilers can be forced to 50 or even 100 per cent, above normal rating when burning fuel oil without any of the enormous strain which occurs when boilers burning coal are forced for any length of time.

Approximately three and a half to four and a half barrels of fuel oil will equal in steaming value one ton of coal.

One ton of fuel oil can be safely relied upon to give approximately the same results as 1.6 tons of coal.

Use of fuel oil gives at least 25 per cent, more boiler horse power than use of coal, due to improved circulation of water and the fact that furnace doors are always closed, resulting in uniform heating.

A large majority of the new ships now being built will burn fuel oil.

Approximate rates of evaporation of water from and at 212 degrees Fahr.:

	Pounds Water.
One pound fuel oil.....	15.5
One pound coal (hard fired).....	10.0
One pound coal (hand fired).....	7.5

The question of marketing fuel oil, in the export field, particularly, involves a wide pioneer engineering and advertising organization to effectively convert foreign engineers to the advantages of fuel oil burning. It is a more difficult proposition than the domestic. Lack of familiarity with foreign conditions, particularly in the war-ridden countries, is a handicap to every American fuel oil engineer.

Offers Many Opportunities.

The fact that there are so very few foreign fuel oil engineers at best makes it necessary for every great American oil company in the export fuel oil field to train American engineers to take charge of their foreign interests. The field for technical men in the fuel oil industry is wide and attractive in the extreme; particularly to the young graduate engineer in search of the romance and opportunities that one is offered with foreign trade.

It may be said that the problem of ocean transportation controls the world's fuel oil consumption at the present time. To meet this the shipyards are rushing work on tank steamers, to place them in commission as early as possible. On such will, of course, depend the improvement of the export fuel oil trade. Once attained, the foreign fuel oil consumer need have no further worries as to his future supply from the American oil companies.

Hindoo's Steel Ouija Board Hides Message While Writing

TO the end that cold steel may determine whether the dear old ouija board is the medium of spirit communication which its protagonists proclaim it to be or, on the contrary, the medium through which they are able to deceive the credulous—including themselves—into the belief that the writings the ouija writes are indeed spirit writings, there has been evolved by Sunker Abaji Bisey, a Hindoo scientist, a ouija which cannot lie.

As Mr. Bisey explains it, the device which he has invented can talk nonsense but it cannot lie. The fact that Mr. Bisey, who is the person who has invented the ouija in question, is the same person who makes the claim that it cannot lie, has nothing to do with the matter. Mr. Bisey once again—to do with the case. As he says himself:

"The operator of the ordinary ouija board is supposed to be controlled by spirit power, but who shall say that some of the convincing writings which have been procured by the use of the instrument are not due to the sub-conscious direction of the operators who have written them? I am speaking now of the operator or operators who are strictly honest. No one, of course, denies the dishonest use of the ouija board by countless operators who have used it either to awe the credulous or to make money."

"To meet the objections which may rightfully be urged against the use of the ordinary ouija board I have invented one which no operator can possibly control. It is made of steel, and writes only when operated upon a steel tray, which is fitted with blind keys connected with an invisible ribbon, such as in common use on all typewriters. The operator sees no part of what he is writing until he has ceased writing completely. Then the paper which has recorded the course of the ouija board upon the surface of the tray is taken from its hiding place and confronts him."

"I have never been able to write anything intelligible upon an ordinary ouija board, but the fact that I am equally unable to write anything intelligible upon the board I have invented is the best claim I can advance that it is proof against the effort of any person to use it dishonestly. That is to say I, the inventor, have deliberately tried to write a

coherent sentence upon it and have failed. It is so constructed that no one can manipulate it to his own ends.

"It is the tray or field upon which the board moves which is mechanical, for the board itself is nothing more than a triangular piece of steel fitted with three little castors, or rollers, just as ordinary boards are. But the tray on which it moves is fitted, all around its circumference, with a series of pegs, between each two of which is a blank typewriter key. As the ouija board under the hands of the operator travels about the tray one or another of its three angles will from time to time poke its point between some pair of pegs and strike a key. The key, connected by a lever to a letter or numeral beneath the tray, impresses that letter or numeral upon a typewriter ribbon, which also is invisible. Finally there is withdrawn from the machine a paper on which is noted every letter or number struck by any angle of the ouija board at any time."

"If there is anything in the theory of those who believe in ouija writings the writing finally drawn out should be a coherent writing. Now bear in mind that the tray on which the board moves is round, and that all the keys and posts upon its circumference are perfectly plain faced and similar to one another in appearance. Set any operator before it, turn the tray about several times to make assurance doubly sure and then let us see him write a dishonest message with it if he can."

"I informed those who inquired of me that although I have seen and heard things in India which would stagger the belief of the average Occidental, I have never been able to get any satisfactory result with the old fashioned ouija board—nor with my own. I preserve an open mind upon the subject of spirit communications. But I say this: that if any spirit has anything to say to me and will communicate it through the device which I have just invented then indeed I will believe that he is the spirit which he pretends to be, for the thing is so constructed that while it may write the most arrant nonsense it cannot possibly 'lend itself to deceit.'"

Mr. Bisey has his invention on exhibition at his offices, 1,431 Broadway, and will be glad to explain its merits more particularly to any one who desires to examine it.

New Mystery Man in The Bronx

SINCE the passing of one of the city's well known characters known to thousands as "Johnnie Lookup," and whose special weakness seemed to be that of regulating traffic where a funeral was passing and who carried his queer name by his constant gaze toward the stars, there has been a dearth of queer characters to amuse and puzzle the crowds on the city's busiest streets. The Bronx now has what bids fair to be the successor to the famed Johnnie Lookup in the person who has been paying regular visits to the police stations and who insists that he is a famous detective. The man of mystery has been dubbed with many nicknames, such as Hawkshaw, Sherlock, Willis Avenue Willie, and his own idea of disguises which he wears and sneaks in and out of the shopping crowd in The Bronx has brought him many laughs, which he falls to see or hear owing to the idea that he has of his own importance in hunting crime.

A peculiar skull cap which the mystery man wears and pulls down over his eyes when going through the Italian quarter is

what he calls his Black Hand disguise and is used when running down a clue to a Black Hander that he believes he has. Another one of his methods to deceive is to tie his feet up in a queer fashion and stagger through the crowds, appearing, as he thinks, a crippled man. He explains this queer bit of stumbling as a way to get close upon a suspect and also to allow him to approach a crowd of crashshooters without being suspected.

A favorite hobby he uses, and which he believes enables him to keep the people from recognizing him, is to grow a heavy beard and then cut it in spots. This only serves to attract notice, and scores of the Bronxites have learned to know him by what he believes to be disguises.

Recently he submitted to an interview by a score of newspaper writers and consented to demonstrate his ability and give the history of his life. He told of having made a study of such famous writers as Nick Carter and Jesse James, and added that Conan Doyle was away off in a great many of his ideas. The detective divisions in the Bronx police station have daily visits from this mystery man.